

From: Admin@wt6.usdoj.gov@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 9:41am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement- Use Linux instead.

I read that you are collecting opinions about the antitrust settlement it with Microsoft.

My opinion is that they should not be allowed to put their software in the poorest school districts as a punishment. That action would only allow them to lock in many, many more people to their proprietary system. It's ludicrous, but it is the sort of thinking that has made Microsoft such a great success.

Once these poor students are trained on Microsofts Operating System, they will not switch to anything else - its just too hard.

Then they will be locked in to buying constant upgrades (both software and hardware) forever.

Do the right thing! Get Linux into the school system!!!! Students can learn one operating system that they will be able to use for the rest of their lives. The OS itself is free, all of the applications (including a complete office suite and professional drawing programs) are also free, and Linux will run (and run very well) on old, low cost hardware. Lets start thinking about what is best for the students and the taxpayer and do what is right instead of what is easy.

obtw: There are Linux user groups all around the country that I believe would be delighted to help teach the teachers at no cost.

Regards,

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